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Question Box

NOTE: All questions addressed to "The Question Box" must be signed if they are to receive a reply. However, names will be withheld from publication if requested. Only the questions considered of general interest will be answered in the EVANGEL.

Where did the Gentiles originate, and what is the difference between them and the Jew? Where did the black race start?—Mrs. D. R. M.

ETHNOLOGY, the science or study of races, divides the races of mankind into several categories. By the word "Gentile" I take it you mean the Aryan or white race; the Jews belong to the Semitic peoples; and the black-skinned people belong to the Negroid races. The Semitic peoples derived their name from Shem, a son of Noah; the Negroid races are descendants of Ham; while the Aryan races are descendants of Japheth.



I should like to know where the Negro originated. Most people have the opinion that the Negro is a descendant of Ham, but I can't find any scripture to that effect.—R. H. N.

GENESIS 10:6, 7 REVEALS Ham as the forefather of the Negroid races. The son of Ham was Cush, father of the Cushites, a black people. The grandson of Cush was Sheba, for whom the country Sheba was named, also a nation of black people. Haile Selassie of Ethiopia today claims to be a direct descendant of the queen of Sheba. Negroes, however, are not the only descendants of Ham—others being the Egyptians, the Carthaginians, and other Aborigines of the northern coast of Africa.



Is there a contradiction between the following scriptures: John 3:13, "And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven," and 2 Kings 2:11, "And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven"?—J. M. S.

WHEN JESUS SPOKE to Nicodemus in John 3:13, he was emphasizing His own sonship to God and His estate with God before He was born on earth. He was asserting that He had come down from heaven, which would be proved by His future ascension. Jesus is actually the only Person who has ever ascended into heaven, for the word "ascend" here bears with it the idea of arising by power within oneself. Elijah went up into heaven by a whirlwind; Enoch went to heaven when God took him, whereas Jesus ascended by His own power. At the rapture we shall be caught away into heaven. Jesus alone was able to ascend into heaven, for He was the only One who has ever come down from heaven to live as a man.

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DECLARATION OF FAITH

WE BELIEVE

1. In the verbal inspiration of the Bible.
2. In one God eternally existing in three persons; namely, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
3. That Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of the Father, conceived of the Holy Ghost, and born of the Virgin Mary. That Jesus was crucified, buried, and raised from the dead; that He ascended to heaven and is today at the right hand of the Father as the Intercessor.
4. That all have sinned and come short of the glory of God, and that repentance is commanded of God for all and necessary for forgiveness of sins.
5. That justification, regeneration, and the new birth are wrought by faith in the blood of Jesus Christ.
6. In sanctification subsequent to the new birth, through faith in the blood of Christ; through the Word, and by the Holy Ghost.
7. Holiness to be God's standard of living for His people.
8. In the baptism of the Holy Ghost subsequent to a clean heart.
9. In speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance, and that it is the initial evidence of the baptism of the Holy Ghost.
10. In water baptism by immersion, and all who repent should be baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.
11. Divine healing is provided for all in the atonement.
12. In the Lord's Supper; and washing of the saints' feet.
13. In the premillennial second coming of Jesus. First, to resurrect the righteous dead and to catch away the living saints to Him in the air. Second, to reign on the earth a thousand years.
14. In the bodily resurrection; eternal life for the righteous and eternal punishment for the wicked.

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THE BANFF—JASPER HIGHWAY Alberta, Canada—Gendreau

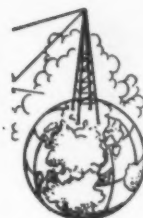
Glacier land near Athabasca Glacier in the Banff National Park. The scenic wonders of this region are unforgettable. The scenery is fascinating the entire 200 miles. At many points the motorist may stop and explore deep and awesome canyons. Many of the mountains in this region rise to more than 10,000 feet and are perpetually snowcapped. Wildlife, including wild animals indigenous to the Rocky Mountains, may often be observed during a trip through this noted big-game sanctuary.

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religious news



SOVIET KINDNESS TO CHURCH "ONLY A MANEUVER," SAYS GERMAN

MUNICH, Germany (EP) The present toleration of the Orthodox Church as the state church of the Soviet Union is nothing but a temporary maneuver of the Red rulers, a German specialist on church problems in the East claimed here. According to *Evangelischer Pressedienst*, official news bulletin of the Evangelical Church in Germany, Professor Dr. Koch, director of the East-Europe institute in Munich, warned that the Communist leaders are not losing sight on their anti-religious goals anchored in the materialistic philosophy of Marxism. The warning, *Pressedienst* said, was voiced at a meeting of Evangelical lawyers held here under the auspices of the Church.

The speaker said that the old Orthodox churches of Georgia, Armenia, and the Ukraine only reluctantly follow the dictates of the Moscow patriarchate which has been recognized by the Soviets since 1943 as the highest religious authority. He added that "new churches of the catacombs" are developing in the Soviet Union where Christians feel obliged to reject the new state church authority created by the Soviets. The objections of these Christians were theological rather than purely political, the speaker said.

CHRIST FOR AMERICA PUTS AC- CENT ON PERSONAL EVANGELISM

CHICAGO (EP) "Christ for America," the program directed by Horace F. Dean, which has sponsored two great continent-wide evangelistic campaigns, is planning to put the accent on personal evangelism by individual Christians, according to a recent release sent to religious publications throughout the nation. Mr. Dean, in stating the new plans for Christ for America, which calls for a series of seminars on personal soul winning in key cities of the nation, declared that the experience of the past ten years in Christ for America, has shown clearly that the greatest accomplishment in soul winning has been by individual effort of Christians. He declares, "Our own observation as a result of much experience leads us to the conclusion that the greatest need before the churches today is the adequate training of believers in all our evangelical churches in the matter of personal soul-winning. We are convinced that any church which will pursue a consistent and continuous program of neighborhood visitation and personal evangelism will constantly grow and also will

enjoy a continuing spirit of revival." Dean further declared that reports of pastors who took part in the continent-wide CHRIST FOR EVERYONE campaign in the past two years show that personal evangelism was the key to success in this campaign and that the crucial need is for Christians who are trained and able to carry on personal work in winning others to Christ. In order to meet this need, Christ for America will begin a series of seminars on the subject of personal soul winning with a seminar in Philadelphia at the Baptist Temple, April 25-30, 1954. Dr. Walter L. Wilson, M.D., president of Kansas City Bible College, and Dr. Robert M. Parr, pastor of the Gilead Baptist Church, Detroit, will be instructors of the series under the direction of Mr. Dean. The seminar will open with an area-wide rally, Sunday afternoon, April 25, addressed by Dr. Parr. Beginning Monday, each morning will be devoted to a Pastors' Forum and workshop addressed by Dr. Wilson and Dr. Parr. The evenings will be for the general public and will consist of two sessions, beginning at 7:00, with Dr. Wilson and Dr. Parr each having a session. J. Stratton Shufelt, well known musician, will direct the music for the seminar, and Mrs. Gilbert C. Davis will serve as Registrar. More than 700 pastors within a radius of forty miles from Philadelphia's City Hall are being briefed on the program and are expected to participate, with their members. Following the Philadelphia meetings, it is hoped that seminars can be set up in key cities across the nation.

NOTES FROM THE NEWS

In Baton Rouge, the city's annual Christmas parade was "entirely spiritual in nature." Churches and "other organizations whose activities are based upon religious principles" were invited to enter floats.

More than 1,400 Businessmen registered at the 16th annual convention of the Christian Businessmen's Committee International, meeting in Chicago recently. Nearly every Protestant denomination is represented in the group, with Baptists, Presbyterians, and Methodists most numerous. Members visit jails, hospitals, and circulate religious tracts.

Babies—more and more of them—are about all that's left of the post-war boom. Birth this year will approximately be 4 million, and there's a new trend toward larger families. More women are having second, third, and fourth babies than in the 'twenties and 'thirties.

Rubber highways are now being tested in 19 states and in several municipalities. Some highway officials believe rubber roads will be standard in their localities within the next few years.

The Government of India has issued a number of regulations aimed at eliminating liquor from public life. There is to be no alcoholic drink at state functions; no liquor advertising accepted in India-owned newspapers; elimination of all drinking scenes from motion pictures; and diplomatic representatives abroad are to substitute fruit juices for cocktails at all official functions.

Marietta, Ga., where liquor stores were closed one year ago, reports an amazing record of community improvements during the year, including \$1,500,000 for hospital, \$400,000 for new street patrol trucks, increased wages for city employees, and new housing projects. The city did not borrow a dime, but paid all its debts. A statement that all this was achieved without liquor-license money was signed by the mayor and the councilmen in all seven wards of the city.

It is enough for us to remember that answers to prayer, like answers to any other kind of request or petition, are of two kinds, positive and negative. Many of us mistake these negative answers as unanswered prayer. In this we are not so wise as the child, who, when asked if God had answered her prayer, replied, "Yes, He answered: He said, 'No.'"

An unnamed poet, writing in *THE CONGREGATIONALIST*, gives us strong, true, counsel in this realm under the title of ANSWERED PRAYERS:

He asked for strength that he might achieve; he was made weak that he might obey.
He asked for health that he might do greater things; he was given infirmity that he might do better things.
He asked for riches that he might be happy; he was given poverty that he might be wise.
He asked for power that he might have the praise of men; he was given weakness that he might feel the need of God.
He asked for all things that he might enjoy life; he was given Life that he might enjoy all things.
He has received nothing that he asked for, but all that he hoped for. His prayer is answered. He is most blest.

—Arthur A. Rouner in *WHEN A MAN PRAYS* (Fleming H. Revell Co.)



Our Responsibility in the Light of Our Opportunity

Galatians: 6:10-16

By FLOYD TIMMERMAN,
State Overseer, Illinois

IT HAS OFTEN BEEN SAID that we live in a land of opportunity. These words are fitly spoken, for we do. The thing that impresses me is that so many people are failing to take advantage of their many opportunities. Some feel that they do not have the ability to do this or that, and they are hindered. Some are just too lazy to try to make a success. We are responsible for every opportunity we let slip by.

A lady said to Lord Northcliffe, "Have you heard about Mr. Thackeray; he awoke this morning to find himself famous." Remember, the man who wakes up to find himself famous hasn't been asleep.

I am made to think of a little poem I read once that goes like this:

"Said one little chick with a tiny little squirm,

'I wish I had a nice fat worm.'

Said another little chick with a queer little shrug,

'I wish I had me a nice fat bug.'

Said the third little chick with a tiny little squeal,

'I wish I had some nice yellow meal.'

'Look here' said the mother, from the green garden patch,

'If you want any breakfast, you had better get up and scratch.'"

As long as some people can get by without doing anything, they will.

If ever there was a time God's ministers had a glorious opportunity, it is now, and if we are ever planning to assume the responsibility, we should do it now. We have talked and planned long enough. Let us put our plans into action. People are dying all around us, and going to hell, and we seem to be content to let them do so. My soul is stirred when I think of the carelessness, indifference, selfishness, and jealousy that is in the world, and even in the Church.

I am made to think of a great character in the Bible named Saul. In the beginning it was said of him that there was not a goodlier man and he was chosen to be the first king over God's people. Jealousy came into his heart, and then he disobeyed God. The sunrise was bright in his life, and everything looked favorable, but soon we see him in a depressed condition, and going to the witch to have Samuel brought forth from the dead so he could talk to him. We see him later in battle, men falling all around him; then the sunset in his life, when he fell on his own sword. I believe if you could hear Saul now, you would hear him say these words, "I had a glorious opportunity, but failed to take advantage of it."

I think of Samson who was able to take a huge lion, king of the forest, with his bare hands and slay him. He was also able to slay a thousand men with such a simple weapon as the jawbone of an ass. Imagine seeing him carrying away the gates of the city of Gaza, upon his shoulders! This same strong man allowed the enticing words from a beautiful woman to cause him to lose his strength, and, next, we see him with both eyes out, grinding at the mill of the enemy. The devil will embarrass you when he causes you to fall. He will make a laughing-stock of you. He could not say he hadn't had an opportunity; he just failed to do what he should.

DAVID WAS only a little shepherd boy, but he knew God's power—the type of boy to assume responsibility of every opportunity that came his way. One day he approached the camp where his brothers were engaged in battle. He had only come to bring some bread

(Continued on page 10)

UNTIL

By JOSEPH L. MILLIGAN,

State Sunday School Superintendent, North Alabama

Luke 24:49, "And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you; but TARRY ye in the city of Jerusalem UNTIL ye be endued with power from on high."

WHEN THE TROUBLED DISCIPLES had met for prayer meeting, behind closed doors for fear of the Jews, Jesus came, the Word says, and stood in the midst of them, saying, "Peace be unto you." Perceiving their frightful apprehensions, He revealed Himself by inviting them to touch His lovely hands and His pierced side. Isn't that just like Him? Always interested in doubting Thomas; always ready to make Himself known; always anxious to dispel fear and establish faith. Ready is He to prove His identity to His followers even if He has to stoop to the lowly example of eating broiled fish and an honeycomb, as He did on this occasion. Then, to make His departure the less grievous to them, He opened "their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures," and set their hearts to burning with evangelism. It has always been easier to break the news of one's departure while the heart is filled with gladness. He told them of God's plan for the death of His only Son, of His resurrection, and then informed them of their duty that must be performed after He had gone, that of preaching repentance and remission of sins "in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem."

Now, the much-dreaded hour has come. Jesus must return to His Father. "And he led them out as far as Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven." As the heavens opened to receive Him, there must have been a resounding praise of welcome that rolled over the hills of glory; angelic messengers strained their wings in eager flight to announce His return. Harps thrummed; choirs sang; symphonies reverberated through towers, spires, steeples and cathedrals; patriarchs, prophets, and the redeemed poured out of their "many mansions" to join in the celebration. Why not? The long lost Son has come home. "He who was dead is alive." The price has been paid; the demands of justice have been met; the "Pearl of Great Price" has been returned to its rightful position. I think all painful conventionalities and tedious formalities must have been cast aside, and even the Father joined in the merrymaking, for His Son, gone from home for thirty-three years, has come back!

While that celebration is getting underway and into full swing, let the eye of thought pierce the clouds and look earthward. There they are. A little band of humble followers of the Lord. Sheep without a shepherd. Christians without a Christ. Pilgrims without a guide. Learners without a teacher. A church without its pastor. Christ is gone. Could there be a more terrible arrangement of words or more sickening statement—CHRIST IS GONE! What a predicament they find themselves in, now! They have "left all and followed him," and now HE LEAVES

THEM. They have taken shelter under His wings, when chased by their raging foes, but now they are shelterless. Disease will still smite, but the Healer is gone. Smothering simooms will violently sweep across the desert of their lives, but the only Oasis for their relief has been removed. Souls will yet strangle in the surf of sin, but the Rock of Ages is not within their grasp. Hearts will still break, but the Binder of Broken Hearts cannot help them. Let the lame hobble, the dumb be silent, the blind sit in midnight darkness, the maniac rave, the prisoner rattle his fetters of sinful habits; let darkness cover the land, and hell take command, for Christ the Healer, the Emancipator, the Light of the World, and the Conqueror of Satanic Armies has deserted a sick world, as He went soaring home. Now the smoke from the pit of hell can roll over the earth, obscuring the heavens; darkness again can cover the land; the armies of the underworld can ride roughshod over all the kingdoms of the earth; diabolical catch-innations of triumph can roll around old Calvary's summit and echo in and out of Joseph's tomb, for Christianity has lost its Christ.

BUT WAIT! God, the Arranger of ALL THINGS, has made preparation for such a time as this. True, Christ has ascended, but not without specific instructions to His precious lambs. The hand that has been holding the reins of the universe still grips them tightly. God has not abdicated His throne and hurled the world's population into hopelessness. Not one rivet of His multi-girded structure for eternity has snapped. Many times things that appear to be backsets in God's work are actually a part of the intricate design of Omniscience. There is yet to be a guide, a comforter, a teacher—yes, the One within the hearts of His children who is GREATER than he that is in the world. This Intecessor shall be the Holy Spirit, which shall so endure them with power that they can surmount all their mountains of difficulty, run through armies of opposition, and tear down the stubborn walls of hindrance. He shall be the Paraclete who shall finger tenderly around the hearts of sinful creatures, wooing them with gentle whisperings to a rugged cross; He shall incise from their eyes the cataracts of spiritual blindness with the Sword of the Spirit, and shall turn their eyes upward toward the writhing Victim on the accursed tree, till they, beholding Him smitten as an innocent lamb, surrender to the power of that crucifixion scene and fall prostrate before Him. When pity has arisen in their hearts, the Spirit will thunder through their consciences, "It was for You. He knew no sin; neither was guile found in his mouth. He was wounded for your transgressions and bruised for your iniquities; your chastisement is laid upon him, and by those bloody stripes you can be healed of your sins. You belong there, not Him. He is becoming sin who knew no sin, that sin may be conquered in you. Behold Him—your Paschal Lamb!" Then shall men open their hearts and accept Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour. Oh, the blessed work of the Holy Spirit! It is His work to gravitate sinners to Christ, for "he shall testify of me."

I turn to my text and note with delight the SENDER OF THE GIFT. You will notice the wording, "And, behold, I (Jesus Christ) send the promise." The Holy Spirit could not come except Christ sent Him. You remember He said, "It is EXPEDIENT that I go away, for IF I GO NOT AWAY THE COMFORTER WILL NOT COME." He is saying in essence, "It is absolutely necessary for you that I leave. I am confined here to a tabernacle of flesh and blood, but

when I return to my Father, I will pray the Father to send the Comforter, who shall be IN YOU, and not only in you, but EVERYWHERE simultaneously, for He shall possess omnipresence. No longer will you search for me in man-gers, carpenter shops, mountain sides, gardens, temples, synagogues, or the homes of my friends, but ANYWHERE AND EVERYWHERE, you may, through the intercession of the Holy Ghost, lift your voice of supplication and receive my immediate attention." Isn't that glorious? On the job, in the office, in a public conveyance, on crowded streets, in overpacked hospitals, in busy stores, in surging throngs, you may find Him. Then the extreme of this—alone in a sick room, alone in a prison cell, alone on a mission field, alone at sea, alone in the dark night of toil, trouble, travail—anywhere you may call, He will answer. The writer agrees this sounds incredible, but millions have found it to be the undeniable truth.

NOTICE AGAIN the text: "I send the promise of MY FATHER." That statement alone tears to shreds the foul claims of critics that the gift of the Holy Ghost is of the devil. We are instructed that "every GOOD AND PERFECT GIFT cometh down from the Father of lights." The Holy Ghost came DOWN from heaven as a "rushing mighty wind, and He came as the very breath of God. Had you noticed the results of such a gift? Had this gift come from the underworld, would it empower and inspire men to leave the haunts of iniquity, bid farewell to their evil associates, pay their longstanding debts, make unexpected restitutions, apologize to their bewildered enemies, attach themselves to the little band of believers of like faith—oftimes the very church they had despised and persecuted—give their alms, pay their tithes, fast and pray, and deny themselves of many hours of pleasure in order to work in the vineyard of the Lord. Surely, Satan neither inspires nor approves such actions. It was a light from HEAVEN at midday outside Damascus that blinded the worst persecutor the early Church had, necessitating his being led by another to a "specified" place where a "specified" preacher would come and lay hands upon him that he might receive the gift of the Holy Ghost and commence preaching in the name of the same Jesus he had been previously persecuting. What an "about face"! The change was wrought by power from ABOVE—not beneath. Be careful, reader, how you roll out the lip in scorn and ridicule, and how you may, even in frivolity, caricature the work of the Holy Spirit. Better you would drag the holy name of Jesus through the very gates of hell than to speak disparagingly about the Holy Ghost.

I observe from my text that GOD'S MOVEMENTS ARE DELIBERATE. The promise of the Gift was definite enough, but He went even further. He told them WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO DO IT, and HOW LONG they should remain there. He told them to TARRY—IN JERUSALEM—UNTIL they were endued with power from on high. The key word to understanding the text, in the writer's opinion, is the word "until." He didn't say how long they would have to remain. "Until" could have meant one minute, one hour, one day, one week, one month, or one year. What He is saying is this, "Stay there until you receive Him, if it takes you forever. Stay there until you become so hungry for the Gift that you would die, if necessary, to receive Him. Stay there until you die out to the world. Stay there until all pride and all carnality have been subdued. Stay there until you so empty yourself that you can be filled." And, oh, is that not the need of the Church today? In these activity-packed days, with all their hustle-

bustle and hurry-scurry, honest hearts often become so filled with the cares of this life that God is unconsciously crowded out. How tragic! Would to God that we could be set right—that we could somehow come to realize the preciousness of time, and utilize these golden moments in worth-while pursuits. Every conscientious pastor's heart has been broken times without number as he has witnessed the carelessness and shocking recklessness of this generation. Time is the most precious thing in all the world, and yet we spend it as though we had a boundless supply. "Lord, teach us to number our days." We keep waiting until next week or next month to commence our labors for eternity, and, before we are aware of it, the sun of our life is setting, and we MUST go, whether we are ready or not. Is it not the very height of folly to fritter away so much time adorning the body and doing nothing about dressing the soul for judgment? We groom the body in the finest habiliments, and send the soul with ragged garments into eternity. It's like embellishing the casket and losing the jewel, or preserving the husk and throwing the kernel away. God help us!

Those precious words uttered at Bethany just before the ascension are certainly applicable to THOSE OCCUPYING OUR PULPITS TODAY. It is absolutely impossible to accomplish lasting results without tarrying before God. There may be some preachers who think they are getting by with their "last-minute" preparation, but they are only kidding themselves. Others know! The beloved apostle Paul exhorted Timothy to "stir up the gift." He knew that Timothy was a wonderful preacher, and he called to remembrance his "unfeigned faith," but still he admonished him to bestir himself and to steal away in private communion with God, lest he let his fire burn low and die. Human nature has always taken the road of least resistance. It is quite natural to withdraw from hard work. No one relishes hours of tedious study, hours of heartsearching, and God-seeking, but these vital ingredients must be poured into the "cup" before it will "run over." How often do we look upon the ability of a great preacher as a gift from God, when it was nothing short of the result of long, grueling hours of poring over books, memorizing the Word, and tarrying until the soul burned with evangelism. No one becomes profound accidentally. It is agreed that "breaks" or "golden opportunities" must present themselves before a preacher becomes widely-known and in great demand, and there are many capable men who have been waiting for years for such to come, but you may rest assured as you watch the meteoric flight of some preacher across the church's skies, he didn't get there by sheer fate. True, the influence of another may have launched his vessel, but the vessel must continue under the power it can generate itself.

WE PREACHERS should TARRY UNTIL THE HEART BURNS. We all know what it is to preach when we have been so absorbed in multifarious duties that we have neglected to pray. How lifeless the words, how dry the eyes, how flat the voice, how dull the service, and how stale the sermonic material when we have failed to pray! Prayerless messages are powerless messages. Legion is the number who have found that harrassing stage fright, fear of contradiction, and even inferiority complexes can be conquered by "tarrying until." It is altogether possible to study and pray until the message burns so fervently that the tongue, the mind, and the heart are anxious to be delivered of their burden. The burning

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Receive Ye the Holy Ghost

By WADE T. WILSON

RECEIVE YE THE HOLY GHOST. These are the words of Jesus of Nazareth to the disciples and to all who are thirsty for the living waters flowing freely to whosoever will. In Psalm 29 David tells us to give unto the Lord glory and strength. I repeat: "Give unto the Lord glory and strength." There is no other way to receive anything from the Lord except by contributing something beforehand.

And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place," Acts 2:1. In our modern times thousands have hurried home from a mission, cottage prayer meeting or church and opened their Bibles to the second chapter of Acts with the intention of stopping at verse four. "And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." Acts 2:3, 4. The Holy Ghost appeared:

To Christ in the form of a dove from heaven.
To the twelve apostles and others as a rushing mighty wind.

To Charles G. Finney in waves of liquid love.

*The love of God so rich and pure will outlive the things
which cause despair.*

We can follow its course so sure, but not impair.

Herald joy of abundant living

Bring cheerfulness in giving.

*Among the many battles of life love will give its all to
save,*

*From realms of eternal glory it reaches to the poorest
knave,*

To share with open hands.

Come, O Holy Spirit, to fill the skies and barren lands.

JOHN WESLEY SAID, "All outward means of grace, if separated from the Spirit of God, cannot profit, or conduce, in any degree, either to the knowledge or love of God." The Holy Ghost reveals the true mysteries to us who are endued with the power. Christ said parables should be for the sinners.

When I meet you by the river of life

There will be no heartaches, no pain, no strife.

Music is the art of the prophets, we are told.

*God sings a melody and walks with us on the streets
of gold!*

(Read Haggai 3:17.)

I mentioned that many hurried home from revivals to open their Bibles with the intention of stopping at Acts 2:4. Nevertheless, they soon found themselves reading of the great Pentecostal revival which followed the upper-room experience and touched off the entire works of evangelism, including both the early and latter rain. Even in the last verse of Acts it is still going at a rapid pace.

For revivals, wholehearted praise is required. The Psalmist takes an excursion with his Maker on the clouds, then arises early to say: "Praise ye the Lord. Praise God in his sanctuary. Praise him in the firmament of his power. Praise him for his mighty acts. Praise him according to his excellent greatness. Praise him with the sound of the trumpet. Praise him with the psaltery and harp," Psalm 150:1-3.

It is said that the cheerful mood of physicians is largely due to their success. Too many Pentecostals are discarding Acts 2:4, which is the source of inspiration for revivals. "The joy resulting from the diffusion of blessings to all around us is the purest and sublimest that can ever enter the human mind, and can be conceived only by those who have experienced it. Next to the consolations of divine grace, it is the most sovereign balm to the miseries of life, both in him who is the object to it and to him who exercises it."—Bishop Porteus.

Today is the day to act in obedience to Jesus' command to tarry for the endowment of power described in Luke 24:49. Even with the frowns of the world, God's divine plan brings everlasting life and a challenge to pursue charity (love) beyond all understanding. Jesus did not say to tarry for thirty minutes and expect to receive something. A chain reaction of blessing will follow in the lives of those who tarry until. Here is the dynamic punch for soul saving coming down by fervent prayer and continual praises. Out of five hundred brethren who were present at Bethany, only one hundred and twenty tarried until. They stand in the forefront of the battle with Gideon's army of three hundred and David's army of four hundred who would not be denied of the most choice manna from heaven by any reasonable sacrifice. In writing of such heroes, Paul says they could not be made perfect without us. Glory!

In recent years the Pentecostals packed out the Hollywood Bowl in California. It was said by one of the speak-

(Continued on page 10)

Wonders

Among You

By **WOODROW C. BYRD**
Overseer of Maryland and Delaware

Joshua 3:5, "Sanctify yourselves: for to morrow the Lord will do wonders among you."

THE WORDS "Sanctify yourselves" are a command that passed from tent to tent in the camp of Israel on the eve before the memorable day when, after forty years of wandering in the wilderness, they crossed over Jordan into the land which God promised them. This command was given so they would prepare for a mighty display of God's power on tomorrow. That which is implied in the term "sanctify" was carried out, for God did work wonders among them the next day.

They moved to the brink of the overflowing Jordan. To go farther was impossible. They had no boats to get across. Yet, they followed, a sanctified people, with no visible way to get across. Priests, bearing the ark of the covenant, stood with water flowing over their feet. It was then that God's wonder-working power took over. The water rolled back and this sanctified people marched across and built a lasting memorial out of twelve stones taken from the bed of the river. Years have passed, and men are being told of God's wonder-working power.

Having related the wondrous event wrought by the power of God, I should like to deal briefly with the day before it occurred.

God's day of wonder was preceded by a day of sanctifying themselves. It seems to me that in order for them to have a day of wonder, there must precede a day of sanctification. This great display of wonder waited for such a day among the people. There was no waiting with God beyond that which was occasioned by the people. Many times we have this given us in the history of Israel.

In Joel, chapter one, we read of terrible desolation among the people: palmerworms, locusts, cankerworms, and caterpillars had eaten up the harvest. Nothing but dried up vines, withered palm, fig, and apple trees greeted the eyes of the sons of men. How discouraged and blue they were. What was to be done? They were to gird themselves and lament. They were to howl at the altar. Instead of sleeping in ivory beds, they were to lie all night in sackcloth. A fast was to be sanctified, and a solemn assembly called. They were to rend their hearts in fasting, weeping, and mourning. Even the children and newly married were included. When this was done, things took on a different hue. God sent them corn, wine, and oil. The reproach was removed. In short, great things ("wonders") were done for them. Rain was given early; also, the latter rain came without delay. There was no delaying of this all-important ingredient. They had plenty to eat and were a satisfied people praising GOD WHO DEALT WONDROUSLY WITH THEM. Joel 2:27.

I should like to affirm that God's power is unchange-

DOUBLE BRO

Natural Brothers

able and mighty to work WONDERS among His people. However, the might of His power varies according or to the extent of holiness among His people. Time and again there is abundant need for the exercise of the might of His power, but before it is enacted, a day of sanctification is necessary.

THIS ETERNAL and unvarying law is seen on another occasion in the home of Jesus. Nazareth was the most privileged spot of the whole earth, for of His thirty-three years, Jesus spent nearly thirty in this city. We can well believe that in no place would Jesus more readily have exercised the might of His power than in the scenes of His boyhood and early manhood. But in Mark 6, the evangelist says, "He could there do no mighty work, save that he laid his hands upon a few sick folk, and healed them." May I ask, Why could He not do any more mighty works here than elsewhere? Was it because His power was less or was there any backsliding on the part of our Lord? His love for them was great, and He went to them early in the beginning of His mighty works. Nay, it was the unbelief of the people that caused Him to leave them without accomplishing very much. The very possibility of aid was cut off because of the absence of those fixed principles on which His wonder-working power depends. A want of receptiveness on the part of the citizenry of Nazareth hindered our Lord from doing wonders at this place. There had been no day of sanctification, and they saw no tomorrow of wonders.

There is no other explanation that satisfies me as to why more displays of wonder are not seen in our day. God is still the same. Every ready is He to show us great and mighty things. He only awaits our day of sanctification to perform His tomorrow of wonders among us. To attribute, like many do, the prevalence of the ordinary and commonplace of our day to the age in which we live or a time when God no longer works wonders among His people is a libel on the infinite love that gave Jesus to a world that will perish without Him. I say that the difficulty is never in the sphere of the divine, but always in the sphere of the human. Evidently, a principle with God is "use the appropriate means, and tomorrow the Lord



WOODROW C. BYRD
Licensed an Evangelist in the Church of God in 1934 in Chattanooga, Tennessee. He attended college from 1934 to 1936 at Lakeland, Florida. In 1940 he received his Bachelor's degree. At present he is State Overseer of the Church of God in Maryland and Delaware.

JOHN L. BYRD
Church of God in Tennessee, Tennessee, to 1931 in the Church of God. He was an Evangelist in Chattanooga, Tennessee, from February 1, 1939. On February 1, 1942 he became a Minister in the Church of God in Tennessee. Currently, he is serving as pastor of the Greensboro, North Carolina.

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will do wonders among you."

My experience in God has been that all great displays of His power have been marked by obedience to certain laws. Most times these marks are seen among smaller groups that have a deep hunger for a walk with God in holiness of life. It is when many are unwilling to comply with God's law of holiness that there is a consequent staying of His wonder-working power among the people. It is no surprise that God withholds the unmistakable manifestations of His presence and power from a people who live worldly and have not their fruit unto holiness. The windows that hold back that superabundant blessing from coming upon us now, as at any time in the past, are bolted on the manward and not on the Godward side. Our day of sanctification, dear ones, will be followed, without doubt, by God's tomorrow of wonders. However, our today of sanctification must precede God's tomorrow.

GOD HAS DONE wondrous things for us in past days. We were brought out of bondage. Let us continue to be people among whom He can do wonders. Many great revivals have been experienced in our day. We are on the threshold of one or two things. There must be a very real mark of living holy among our people or we shall forfeit much of the true manifestations of God's presence in our midst. Never has there been a greater need for consecration. Will we comply with this unvarying demand of our Lord when He said, "Be ye holy, for I am holy." What wonders would be wrought in our lives, if we would accept, without a moment's questioning, this divine truth! Things that are now so drab, ordinary, and commonplace would be marked by the sanctifying power of God. It is only a matter of hearty acquiescence to God's law, but it marks the difference between a life of defeat and one of victory, a life of barrenness and a life abounding in fruit.

To me there is no other explanation of the absence of God's wonders for any length of time. In vain will be the outward forms of taking the Lord's Supper or washing the saints' feet unless they are the outward and visible signs of an inward and spiritual grace. He will be with us

(Continued on page 10)

WOODROW C. BYRD was licensed an Evangelist in the Church of God on March 27, 1929, in Chattanooga, Tennessee. He attended Lee College from 1934 to 1936. At Maitland, Florida on May 9, 1936, he received his ordination. At present he is the Executive Overseer of Maryland and Delaware.

JOHN L. BYRD served the Church of God in Chattanooga, Tennessee, from 1929 to 1931 in the capacity of pastor. He was licensed an evangelist in Chattanooga on January 1, 1939. On June 22, 1940, he became pastor of the Church of God in Memphis, Tennessee. Currently, he is serving as pastor of the church in Greensboro, North Carolina.



Revival

Before Service

By **JOHN L. BYRD**

Pastor of Greensboro, N. C.

"And Moses and Aaron came in unto Pharaoh, and said unto him, Thus saith the Lord God of the Hebrews, How long wilt thou refuse to humble thyself before me? let my people go, that they may serve me," Exodus 10:3.

GOD DEMANDS a revival before service. He will not accept the service of one who is not right with Him, nor will He accept one who has substituted religion for the personal control of the Lord Jesus Christ. Israel did not listen to the Lord. They went to Egypt for help, and it wasn't long until they were slaves in the brick kilns of Egypt. God is not going to use you until you are revived. He says, "I will remove my candlestick from your midst," Revelation 2:5.

When He appeared to the first church of this age, the church of Ephesus, in the apostolic period, He said, "I have this against you, you have left your first love." He wants you to return to your first love and your first work. You cannot do your first work unless you have your first love. That first love is the love of the new convert; it is the love of one who serves God with all his heart, soul, mind, and strength, and he, and only he, is in a position to do that. Revelation 2:4, 5.

One cannot serve two masters. Until the lordship of Jesus Christ has been restored over man's life, he is of no value in service. That is why so many professed Christians today are worthless and powerless. Regardless of how religious they may be, or how many rituals or forms they may obey, how many programs they carry out, or how often they may go to church, until Christ Himself gets control of their lives, they are not going to be worth anything in His service. He must be their Lord. In fact, many will come to Him in the last day and say, "Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy by thy name, and by thy name cast out demons, and by thy name do many mighty works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you." Matthew 22, 23 (R. V.).

When the children of Israel were in the brick kilns of Egypt, they had turned their backs upon the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and must be delivered. Now, when modern Christendom has gone into the same type of apostasy, fallen away from the lordship of Jesus Christ and accepted every other control, there will never be any great ingathering or successful evangelizing until there is a revival in our churches. There are only two places where the evangelist can preach with any success. One is where there are no churches at all, and the other, where the churches have been revived. Go to any community that is highly churchied, and if the churches are in a backslidden condition, the lost of that community cannot be reached.

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OUR RESPONSIBILITY IN THE LIGHT OF OUR OPPORTUNITY

(Continued from page 4)

and cheese, as told by his father. He was not there long until a huge man began to bellow out from the valley below. He challenged every man in the camp of the Israelites to come and fight him, but they all shook and trembled in their boots. Even King Saul, who was head and shoulders taller than any other man, was afraid to go against the giant. When no one else would go, David said, "I'll go."

I can imagine that when the old giant kept making his boast something began to move within David, and he could be still no longer. I would to God that something would so stir us that we would rise to meet the challenge of the devil in this day. His brothers made fun of him, as he marched off to see the king. When King Saul saw him, he said, "Young man, you cannot fight this giant. You are nothing but a lad." David reminded him of some past experiences, such as slaying a bear and lion, and said with confidence, "The same God that delivered the bear and the lion into my hands will also deliver this Philistine into my hands." Praise God! When the devil comes against us we can always point him back to some past experience and let him know we can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth us. David met Goliath with a simple weapon, but he knew God would give the victory. He accepted the responsibility and took advantage of the opportunity. Most of us ministers spend two years trying to figure out where we are going next, and let opportunities to help people and see our church grow pass by. Let us take advantage of every opportunity, and work hard at it, and God will take care of us and open up another place to go.

I SHALL NEVER FORGET one young man who came before the examining committee for license to preach. After he had passed his examination, he told me something like this. "Now that I will get license to preach, when you have a church available paying about \$65 to \$75 a week, just get in touch with me." I thought, "You do not deserve license to preach, as you would only tear down what it has taken others years to build." One man came to me and asked this question, "If I came into the Church of God, what do they have to offer me?" In return I said, "What do you have to offer the Church?" The Church always has something to offer the person who in return has something to offer the Church.

Here in Illinois we have large cities that have never been touched. People are hungry to hear the full gospel, and there is no one to take it to them. Not only is it that way in this state, but in others, also. I think the preachers who hold licenses with the Church and have given up their ministry, settled down to a job, and are failing to preach should be man enough to turn their licenses in. No man has any excuse which will justify him in the sight of God for not preaching the gospel unless he is sick and cannot preach. God has never told any person to do a single thing but first he knew he could do it, and has promised that He will provide a way for him. With a God-called minister, it is preach or die. He will find a way and a place.

Opportunities, *opportunities*, OPPORTUNITIES are knocking everywhere. Let us take full advantage of them and watch our church really grow in the next few months. It is our great and grave responsibility. Only the

great God of heaven knows the sorrow that will come to the man who fails, and only He it is who knows the glory that will come to the one who succeeds. I conclude this message with the words from a plaque that used to hang by the old fireplace back home. I used to warm by the fire and read these words:

*And when the one Great Scorer comes,
To write again your name,
He writes neither that you won or lost,
But how you played the game.*

RECEIVE YE THE HOLY GHOST

(Continued from page 7)

ers that a message was given out in other tongues by a sister which was easily heard by the entire audience. This is not out of God's reach, for, according to Revelation, the apostle John will speak and all creatures will hear him. It is our business to seek for people to be saved, instead of waiting for them to come to our regular services.

Many tarrying for the baptism of the Holy Ghost should expect a conflict. Sometimes a husband or wife will threaten to leave home as a bluff to the seeker, to cause her or him to stay away from revivals. In the Old Testament we read of Jonathan putting out his own fleece with the Lord. Only his armorbearer was marching with him at the time, and they won a great victory by allowing God to lead the way.

*Receive ye the Holy Ghost!
Of all the gifts from heaven's shore,
It is the most
The Father and Son could bestow.*

No Edison or Marconi invention has ever brought anything to equal the Pentecostal blessing prayed down by our resurrected Jesus of Nazareth. David longed for Zion (the latter-day church), and if he had the opportunity to drink with us, he would not hesitate as he did when three of his mighty men broke through the lines of the Philistines to bring him a drink from the water of Bethlehem. Doubtlessly, the three mighty men would begin to drink, and David would have to break through the enemy's garrison to draw for himself, the same as many Christians and converts are doing today. "The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?" Psalm 27:1.

WONDERS AMONG YOU

(Continued from page 8)

if we maintain inward holiness which is shown by outward sanctification. He bids us be anew to true holiness, and our tomorrows will be marked by great wonders wrought among us as in days past.

Are we prepared for the greatest wonder of all; that is, the rapture of the Church? Could it be that this great event depends on certain readiness on the part of us. Revelation 21:2, "And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, PREPARED AS A BRIDE ADORNED for her husband." Matthew Henry says, "This new Jerusalem is the Church of God in its new and perfect state, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband, beautified with all perfection of wisdom and holiness, meet for the full fruition of the Lord Jesus Christ in glory." Such is the people that is called the New Jerusalem, whom God dwells with and is their God.

REVIVAL BEFORE SERVICE

(Continued from page 9)

Until churches are revived, they will not get the lost into their buildings. Neither will they have the power to turn to the Christ should they come. Satan knows how to defeat God's plan in getting His people to serve Him. First, Pharaoh proposed to Moses and Aaron that they go on and serve God right there in Egypt. Then he ordered the taskmasters to not deliver any straw, but to demand the same amount of work that they might not think so much of serving the Lord. They were just idle. One of the things Satan makes you believe is that you haven't time to waste on serving the Lord; you haven't time to devote to attending an evangelistic meeting. Consequently, an old backslidden, world-loving slave will not take time to attend church. You must be revived; you yourself must become a flaming evangel; you must be a witness, or a sample of what you preach. Certainly, an old backslider who will get up and say, as I have heard many say, "I am trying to serve the Lord but it is awful hard," can make no appeal to the lost soul.

AFTER PHARAOH HAD SEEN some curses come upon his land, he called in Moses and Aaron and said, "Look here, you insist that you can't serve God in Egypt. How far do you want to go?" Moses and Aaron said, "If we undertake to serve God in Egypt, if we sacrifice to the idols of the Egyptians, they will stone us. We want to go three days' journey." You cannot dwell in this world and witness for Christ without being at war all the time with the people of this world. Unless there is a separation, they have no confidence in you. They will despise you. Yes, there must be a complete awakening. You must know the distance that every man goes when he separates himself from this world and walks with the Lord—dead to the world and alive in Christ—and it took Christ three days to go the journey. You are going to pass through the same experience. You must go to the cross and die with Him; you must come out of the grave alive and live the new life. So, until you have been delivered three days from this old world, dead to its lust and its control, and alive and under the leadership of Christ, you cannot serve Him.

When this demand was made of Pharaoh, they were driven from his presence. Later on, an attempt was made for another compromise. Moses and Aaron were called in, and Pharaoh said, "I will tell you what I will do. I will let you older people go, but leave your children down here." Evidently this is what the devil has succeeded in doing in so many places now. He has said, "You older people go on to church; the young people are going with the world." The youth of today are not going to have any confidence in you, if, after two thousand years of Christianity, and with your fine churches and Sunday Schools, you cannot do anymore for him than some are now doing. He will ask, What is there to it? The young people have turned away from Christ because you have turned away from Him. You turned away from your God before they did. You killed the influence your pastor had over your children by critical remarks about your pastor, or the Sunday School superintendent, the teacher, or perhaps some other member of members of the church. To Pharaoh's proposition to Moses and Aaron, of leaving their children, their reply was "No; we are going to take our children, our little ones, with us."

I want to repeat, the revival that does not deliver you out of this world and help you to walk with God; the re-

vival that does not deliver your children out of this world and bring them into the life with Christ and the Church, instead of their turning to the dance, the club house, the picture show, and other forms of amusement and entertainment in which to find pleasure and enjoyment, is not much of a revival, and you can blame no one but yourself. In many cases where the children do not know Christ, the blame rests with the parents. That is the greatest testimony against Christ that has ever been delivered. When you leave the impression upon the youth of this country that he has to turn to all kinds of amusement for pleasure, then our churches have miserably failed.

AGAIN, when Moses and Aaron were called before Pharaoh after another curse had come upon the Egyptians, he said, "Listen, I have decided to let all of you people go, but I want you to leave your herds and your flocks down here—leave your wealth here." Just another compromising proposition! Look around you today and see how millions of dollars is being spent for anything and everything. Liquor and beer trusts, tobacco firms, movie houses, all of these spare no expense in advertising that which damns the souls of men. The devil laughs loud and long, and says to many professed Christians, "It is all right to go to church, but don't let them trick you into paying your tithes, and don't give in the offering to help support the church. If an offering is received for foreign missions, tell them you believe in home missions first. Go on to church, but be sure you hold on to your money. You know how high living costs are today, and you know about your obligations. You just can't live and pay your tithes and give in offerings to help carry on the work of the Lord."

The answer of Moses and Aaron to Pharaoh's last proposition was, "Our cattle also shall go with us; there shall not an hoof be left behind." Again they were driven out of the presence of Pharaoh, and God sent another curse. The last terrible blow came when there was death in every house in Egypt, even in the stalls—the very animals were under the curse. Pharaoh in desperation called Moses and Aaron a last time and said, "Get out. If you don't, we are all dead." And so Israel started on the march toward liberty. Slaves were given their liberty, but, of course, that was not the end. The very fact that they had been slaves meant they needed a leader. When they stood at the Red Sea and could not march across the water, it was the Lord who stepped in and divided the water and sent the storm to destroy the pursuing host.

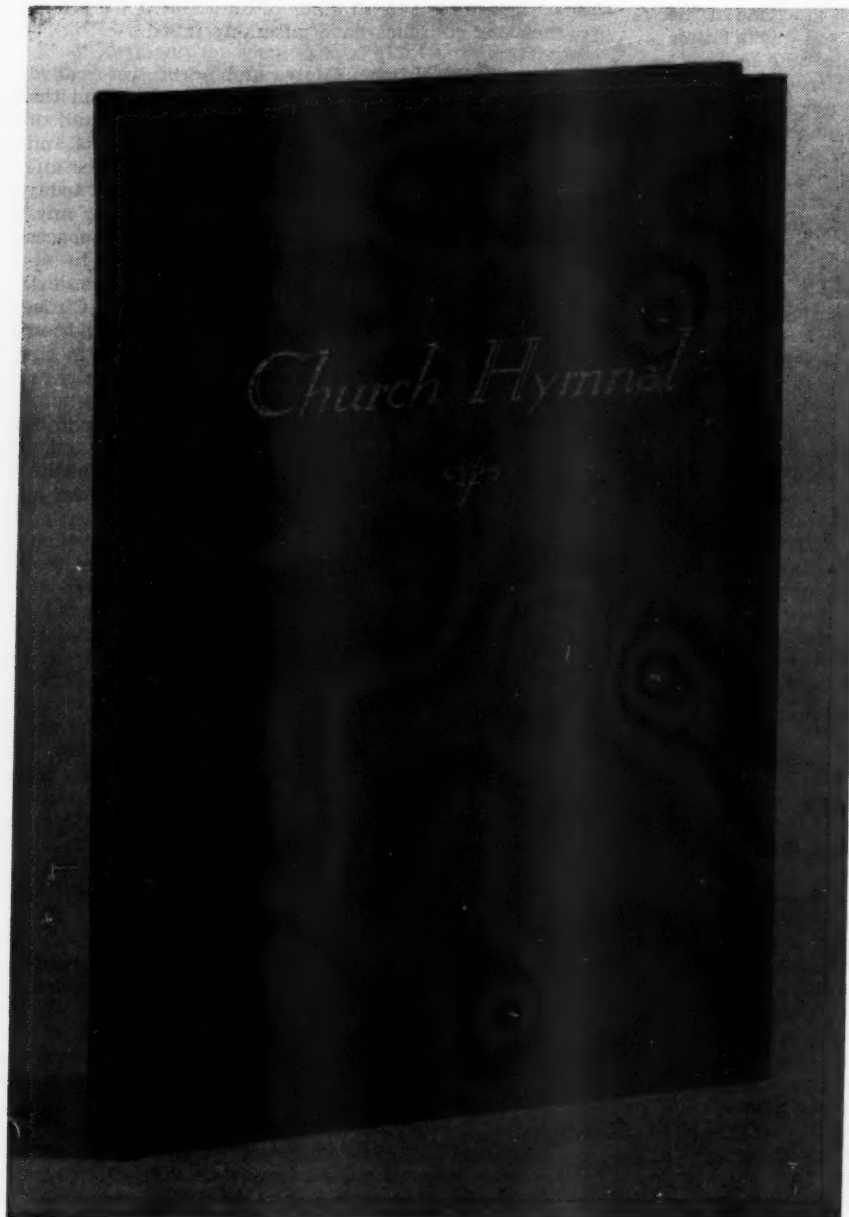
Remember, my friends, we are going to need the Lord every step of the journey. If we have lost the lordship, and the faith and confidence in God that makes us more powerful than all the armies that ever marched against us, it is because we are in a backslidden condition, as was Israel.

So, the revival which cannot put you where you can always find the need of the hour, whether it be manna given you as you march through the wilderness, or whether it be the leadership of the One to fight your battles, is a failure. Your hope today is for a revival that will bring you back to your Christ. We do not need a revival just in religion. We need a revival that will bring us back to Christ. When we speak of REVIVALS, we mean an increased or a renewed interest in whatever we want to revive people. If we do not want to have a revival that will bring us to the Founder of our hope and of our salvation, who is Christ, then what we revive is not going to do us any good, or do anything for us.

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reports

WARE SHOALS, S. C.—In the past three years, our membership has more than quadrupled, having increased from 24 to 101, under the leadership of our pastor, Rev. Thomas Grassano, and his good wife. Our church has been completely remodeled inside. New pews and furniture have been installed, along with a new gas heating system. We are free of debt. We praise God for everything that has been accomplished.

We have just closed a three weeks' revival, with Rev. N. A. Jordon, of Easley, S. C., as the evangelist. There were 24 saved, 7 sanctified, 3 filled with the Holy Ghost, and 12 added to the church. One has come in since the revival. Brother Jordon prayed for the sick, and many miracles of healing were performed. A young girl who was blind in one eye received her sight. One lady who was deaf in one ear received her hearing. We praise God for the many blessings He has bestowed upon us and for our good pastor and his wife, whose untiring efforts have endeared them to our hearts.—Mrs. Johnnie Cothran, Reporter.



Church of God at Augusta, Maine

In 1943, Wilman Smith, our pastor, had a vision of a church. We saved money enough during his ministry to buy a lot. With the cooperation of our state overseer, Rev. J. B. Camp, when he left the state, the erection of the church was well underway.

Our next two pastors, Roland Faunce and Ruth Justin, did much to improve the building. Mr. James Ricker worked alone and shingled the building. In the fall of 1952, Brother Ricker, with our pastor, Rev. Raymond Books, erected a vestibule.

Left to right are Reverend D. G. Homner, state overseer; Ruth Justin, former pastor; Raymond Books, pastor; and James H. Ricker.—Lida B. Ricker, Clerk.



ST. LOUIS, Mo.—The Church of God that is now located at Forrest Park Boulevard and Grand Avenue in St. Louis, Mo., was organized about 1928. The following pastors have served this church: Revs. Floyd Byrd, R. E. Worley, C. E. French, John O. Yates, George L. Britt, J. W. King, M. M. Mortenson, and R. E. Nuzum, the present pastor.

While Rev. John O. Yates served the church, we realized the need of a permanent church location. A fund was started for that purpose, with which we bought a store and apartment building on the corner of Vista and Newstead Avenue.

While Rev. M. M. Mortenson was pastor, a fund was started to build at another location. Because the membership was small (about 55 members) and payments had to be made on the Vista and Newstead property, this fund grew very slowly. In 1950, when Rev. R. E. Nuzum became pastor, the people were inspired to a greater life of faith and endeavor. The church was soon crowded to capacity, and we began to look about for something better. Much prayer and meditation was given to securing a new location.

The Second United Presbyterian Church wanted to sell their property at Forrest Park Boulevard and Grand Avenue. The membership visited this location and with one accord declared, "This is what we want." The membership was steadily growing, and among the new members was a real estate man who, working with the board of trustees, found that \$45,000 could be raised by borrowing and adding to

what we had in the building fund.

Negotiations were begun for this property, and it was learned that two commercial concerns were offering \$175,000 for it, with intentions of wrecking this beautiful church. Upon advice of our real estate agent, we offered \$40,000 cash and presented a check for \$1,000 earnest money, in spite of the tremendous price offered by the commercial interests. Upon learning that this property could not be sold for commercial purposes, the owners asked the Church of God \$45,000, which was promptly accepted by our realtor, thus securing the deal for the Church of God. Another church group, not knowing the sale was closed, offered \$90,000 for this property. Our church has enjoyed a 150 per cent increase in membership since buying this property, has paid \$410.13 each month on the indebtedness, and, by the cooperation of the membership and friends, has paid \$5,000, besides the regular payments, since March 8, 1953.

This building is constructed of stone, with a slate roof. It has 10 rooms, besides a large schoolroom adjoining the auditorium, with a seating capacity of about 500. The auditorium has comfortably cushioned oak pews and is equipped with a sound system for an electric organ, which will be installed in the near future. A \$2,600 Hammond organ is being purchased. The Y.P.E. is now installing a new neon sign at a cost of \$389. The estimated value of this property is about \$225,000.—Clarence Tarpley, Board Member, Reporter.

UNTIL

(Continued from page 7)

anxiety will moisten the eyes with tears of sincerity, thus obscuring the faces from view that would otherwise frighten the trembling messenger. It was Spurgeon who stated that we must "ram ourselves into our own cannons, and fire ourselves at our congregations, hoping that they may be awakened by the blast."

There is an appalling need on the part of our preachers to tarry until we have an insatiable appetite for books. "Oh," you cry, "I don't believe in studying the works of men or of using material in sermons gathered from books." You don't, huh? Where did you get your A.B.C.'s. Where did you get your language? Whom did God inspire to write the Bible, but MEN? We rejoice to hear men quote the apostle Paul, or Matthew, or Luke, but let them quote some contemporary preacher, and we cry, "Poll parrot! Copyist! etc." The same Holy Spirit that anointed the sacred writers of God's Word also inspires men today to write—and the material is certainly quotable. No one is altogether original. I have before me a book of philosophy which contains, among many other things, a dialogue of Plato, which quotes Socrates, one of the world's most brilliant men, saying, "The fact is, my worthy Phaedrus, that my breast, I KNOW NOT HOW, is full of matter, and I feel that I could be delivered of a speech different from, and in nowise inferior to this. Now that I HAVE INVENTED NONE OF IT MYSELF, I am quite confident, as I am no stranger to my own stupidity. It remains then, I think, that LIKE A PITCHER I HAVE BEEN FILLED, THROUGH MY EARS, FROM SOME FOREIGN SOURCE; but here again so stupid am I that I have quite forgotten how and where I gained my information." Like a pitcher! And so should be every preacher of the gospel—filled from every source—from God's Word, from books of men, from experience, from conversation, from hearing others preach—ever listening, ever learning, ever improving, ever correcting, ever PROGRESSING. After the apostle Paul had preached for a quarter of a century, he still asked Timothy to go by Troas and pick up his cloak and his parchments. Had you noticed that he said "especially my parchments"? If it were impossible for Timothy to bring all of Paul's belongings, he is preferring his parchments to his cloak. Though the air is chilly, and the old body of Paul cannot endure much more of it, he would rather jeopardize his health than to be without his books.

Again the text impresses me that we should TARRY UNTIL WE CAN RIGHTLY EVALUATE ETERNITY AND JUDGMENT. We fall many times to see the eternal things for looking after the "passing." We have left the ministry of the Word to serve tables. If, in our communion with Him, the veil could be just partly drawn back, and we could catch a glimpse of the two worlds beyond this life, our ministries would undergo a radical change. If our spiritual ears could hear the song of the redeemed and then the screams of tortured spirits rolling up out of the pit of hell, and if our spiritual eyes could behold the mansions filled with heaven's host and then look upon the innumerable throng racing madly through the sulphurous streets of the damned, such an experience would remove the rashness from our movements, the harshness from our voices, and the impatience from our actions. With what pathos could we plead with the lost if we knew that their eternal welfare depended on the success or failure we made in our appeals. And if we caught some idea of

the awful import of the coronation day away out yonder somewhere in the rolling cycles of the great beyond, we would console ourselves when others seem ungrateful for our efforts. When the sermon is ended, and the congregation hastens to disperse without even a "thank you" for the attempt to bless them, we could comfort ourselves with the fact that it was "God's message" and we preach not for the present anyhow.

ANOTHER GLANCE at the text reminds me that OUR CHOIRS NEED TO TARRY UNTIL THE HEART SINGS. Much of our singing is lifeless simply because it is not backed with prayer. Often we sing without thought of the consequences, thinking we sing just to put on a service, forgetting that the songs we sing might, if anointed of God, be the very medium through which God speaks to human hearts. Our songs could determine whether the hearer in the ages to come would sing the song of the redeemed or groan forever in the lost world. There is such an unpardonable desecration of gospel singing in this day. Unfortunately, the so-called religious world is sponsoring it. It's nothing short of paying robbers to steal your purse, or paying a doctor to poison you, or inviting cancer to devour you. I tell you we need singing that will make the heart move instead of making the body sway. Our old hymns, written by men anointed of God, are cast aside as "worn-out garments" or "relics of a bygone age." When any Christian finds himself preferring songs written in a light, joyful vein above the old songs that exalt Christ and Calvary's crimson flow, that person needs to revisit the little knoll just outside Jerusalem and gaze again upon the horrid scene. Had you wondered why so many of our modern-day songs live such short lives? Better we would be if some of them had died at birth without having gone to press.

Lastly, they who occupy our PEWS NEED TO TARRY UNTIL THE HEART HUNGERS FOR GOD AND HIS HOUSE. We go to church when it is CONVENIENT to do so. We let TRIVIAL THINGS keep us from God's house. We, who are professors of the Pentecostal blessing, should tarry until we be endued with power to get out of bed, power to give God His day of worship, power to defy rain, snow, or heat at the hour of prayer, power to resist temptation and decline invitations that conflict with our church services. It is a sad state of affairs when the saints can be counted on to be on the job, or at musical presentations, and singing conventions, but cannot be counted on when the Son of God marches forth to war in evangelistic efforts. We need to hunger for God's Word. Many of our people don't know what they believe or why they believe, and, having a foundation of emotion instead of a foundation of God's Word, they are easily swept away in time of temptation. In many of our churches they sing and shout during the song service and testimony service and YAWN while the Bread of Life is being broken. Brethren, these things ought not to be. The reason we have so many "sick sheep" is because they are not feeding on the right things, and are grazing in wrong pastures. There is ABSOLUTELY NOTHING, NOTHING, NOTHING, that will substitute for God's eternal Word. Better you would snatch the bread from the lips of a starving man than to take from God's people the "sincere milk of the Word." May God grant that we tarry until the Precious Book, which is to many the mere lifeless writing of men, becomes a living letter to us, bringing comfort and love from our Father and our heavenly home.

GEORGIA

BOYKIN, Ga.—We have recently enjoyed a good revival. Sister Mildred M. Griffin, Lumber City, Georgia, Box 114, was our evangelist. An 82 year old man made his way into the altar and was blessed. Another elderly man sought God. When the evangelist laid hands on them, a man and his wife received the Holy Ghost. Anyone would do well to secure this evangelist.—Mrs. A. V. Chandler, Pastor.

COLUMBUS, Ga.—We had a three weeks' revival, with the Ming Evangelistic Party. There were 24 saved, 8 sanctified, 6 baptized with the Holy Ghost, and 10 added to the church. A great part of the success of this revival can be contributed to the co-operation of the good pastor, L. O. Peck.—Revival Reporter.

INDIANA

AUSTIN, Ind.—We recently had a wonderful 3 weeks' revival, with Rev. Ivan Stone, of Cincinnati, Ohio, conducting the services. There were 10 saved, and 6 received the Holy Ghost. The revival fire still burns.—Clerk.

KENTUCKY

BOWLING GREEN, Ky.—A glorious youth revival has been conducted at Bowling Green, Ky., by Rev. Frankie O. Ward, of Savannah, Ga.

God blessed in a marvelous way. Fifteen were saved, 6 sanctified, and 7 received the Holy Ghost. This revival proved a great blessing to the church, as well as to those who received experiences from God. Brother Ward, only 18, has such a wonderful knowledge of the Bible that it made the people forget how young he is. Those, who have been members of the church for years said that he preached as a minister with many years' experience. He can be contacted at 927 Kehoe Court, Savannah, Ga.—Clay Shelton, Pastor.

EAST BURNSTADT, Ky.—We are happy to report that we have had a good revival which closed December 12, with Rev. Roy E. Barnette, of Middletown, Ohio. The Lord blessed in a great way. Five were saved. A total of 9 members, one by transfer, were taken into the church. One of the members is a Pentecostal preacher. We have a good pastor, Rev. B. G. Asher.—Reporter.

LOUISIANA

JENA, La.—The church at Jena is still praising the Lord for the great revival we have just enjoyed, with Rev. Robert White, of Hattiesburg, Miss., as the evangelist. He is a man of God, with a God-given message in his heart. There were 24 saved, 18 sanctified, 10 baptized with the Holy Ghost, 20 added to the church, and 11 baptized in water. Four have been added to the church since the revival



closed. We are putting pecan flooring in our church and finishing it inside. We need your prayers.—Mrs. W. E. Rodgers, Reporter.

SOUTH CAROLINA

YORK, S. C.—We had a three-weeks' revival with Brother and Sister W. L. Myers as the evangelists. There were 22 saved, 10 sanctified, and 8 received the Holy Ghost. A total of 12 were added to the church. Our Sunday school record of 245 was broken with 262 during this campaign. Like his father, Billy Sunday Myers, Brother Myers is making progress in the church. We are blessed to have such an outstanding man for God as Brother B. S. Myers as our pastor.—Betty Harris.

TENNESSEE

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.—In our recent 3 weeks' revival, Brother Royster of Alabama was the evangelist. It was one of the greatest our church has ever had. Thirty were saved, 4 sanctified, 4 filled with the Holy Ghost, and 11 added to the church. There was a prayer line every night. Cancers and

other incurable diseases were healed. The church was revived, and the attendance has increased.—Mrs. Ruth Grayson, Clerk.

WEST VIRGINIA

ROBINETT, W. Va.—In our three and a half weeks' revival here, under the direction of Sister Buryel Salyers, 11 were saved, 10 sanctified, and 4 baptized with the Holy Ghost. Her address is Switzer, West Virginia; phone Logan 54-J-2. — H. E. Chapman, Reporter.

BLUEFIELD, W. Va.—We thank God for our good revival. There were 10 saved, 13 sanctified, 1 baptized with the Holy Ghost, and 13 added to the church. A number were healed in the special healing services. The church as a whole was greatly blessed with the old-time, Pentecostal fire burning in their souls and much shouting and praising God.

In this meeting there was a chain fast and a chain prayer going all through the entire revival. Brother Roy Dagnan, of Wallins Creek, Ky., an experienced man in the ministry, was the evangelist. Brother E. P. Music, our pastor, is doing a good work.—Madge Richardson, Clerk.

COURT OF PRAISE

TAEKWANG-NI, Korea.—Last summer while in basic training in Virginia, I was very sick with my stomach and head. I began to lose weight and felt bad. I was a Christian and had been healed many times. I was raised in a Church of God home, and I'd been taught divine healing all my life. I knew that God could heal me. I promised God if He'd touch my body, I'd write to the Evangel. In a day or so I began to get better, and soon was well and gaining weight. I thought about it many times, that I promised God if He'd touch my body, I'd write to the Evangel. So, I'm doing just that. I thank God for His many blessings to me and for His healing power. I desire all the prayers from the Christian people back in the States. Pray much for me and not only for me but for all the boys in the Armed Services. God has been good to me here. I truly thank Him for His wonderful guidance.—Pfc. Daniel S. Cupp, US 53 182 105, Med. Det. Hqs. 25th Inf. Div., APO 25 in care of P. M., San Francisco, California.

ROCK HILL, S. C.—Lately I had several attacks of what I think might have been gall bladder trouble. I had no doctor for this condition. I went to Jesus, the best Doctor of all. He healed me when it seemed I could bear the suffering no longer. I have a deep desire in my heart to always serve God and be able to work for Him until life on earth is finished.—Mrs. Brice Pitman.



BARNES

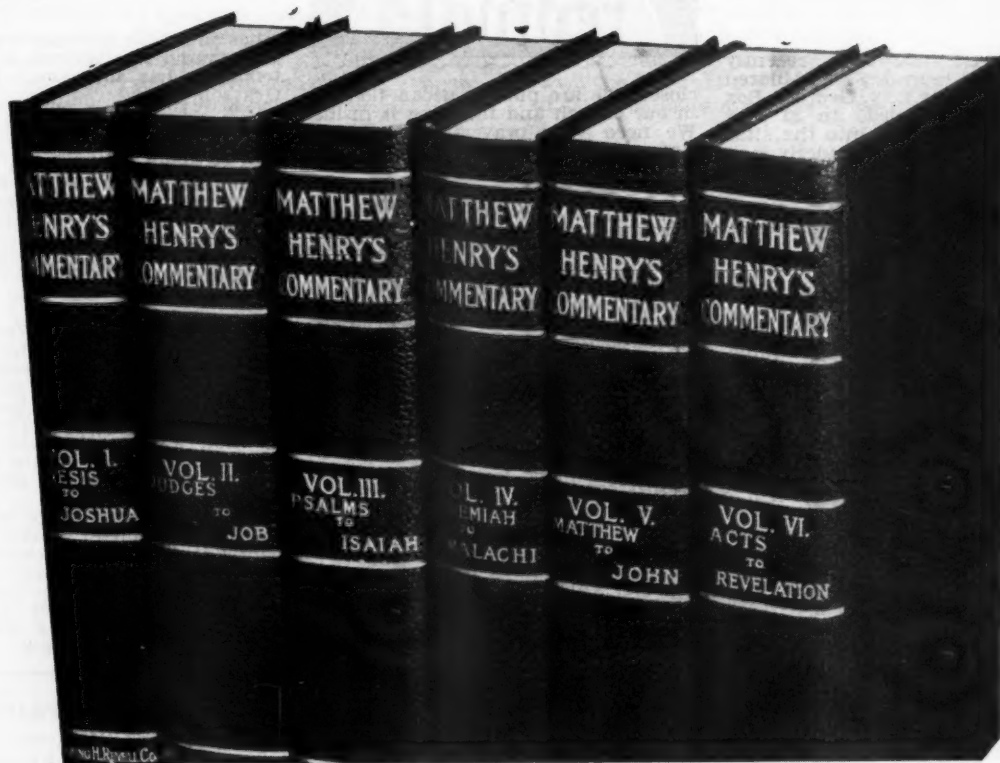
Mrs. Jennie Inez Wright Barnes, 46, a faithful and devoted member of the Thomasville, N. C., Church of God, died October 4, 1953, at her home. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. J. C. Teachey, her pastor, assisted by Rev. W. S. Williamson, her former pastor. She is survived by her husband, Joe E. Barnes, and two daughters.

MULLIKIN

Thomas Mullikin, of Easton, Md., departed this life December 6, 1953. The son of the late Mrs. Clara Mullikin, a minister in the Church of God, Brother Mullikin was a member of the Church of God 23 years, a trustee 20 years, and was a Sunday School teacher when he became ill. He is survived by a wife and 6 children. The funeral was conducted by Wm. F. Morris, assisted by Edwin Tull and Raymond Crowley.—Wm. F. Morris.

WATKINS

Reverend J. J. Watkins, an ordained minister in the Church of God, died on December 13, 1953.



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